

BANNOCK - ONEIDA RESOURCE AREA LAND USE DECISIONS



A SUMMARY FOR THE
POCATELLO MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN
AND THE
MALAD MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
BURLEY DISTRICT

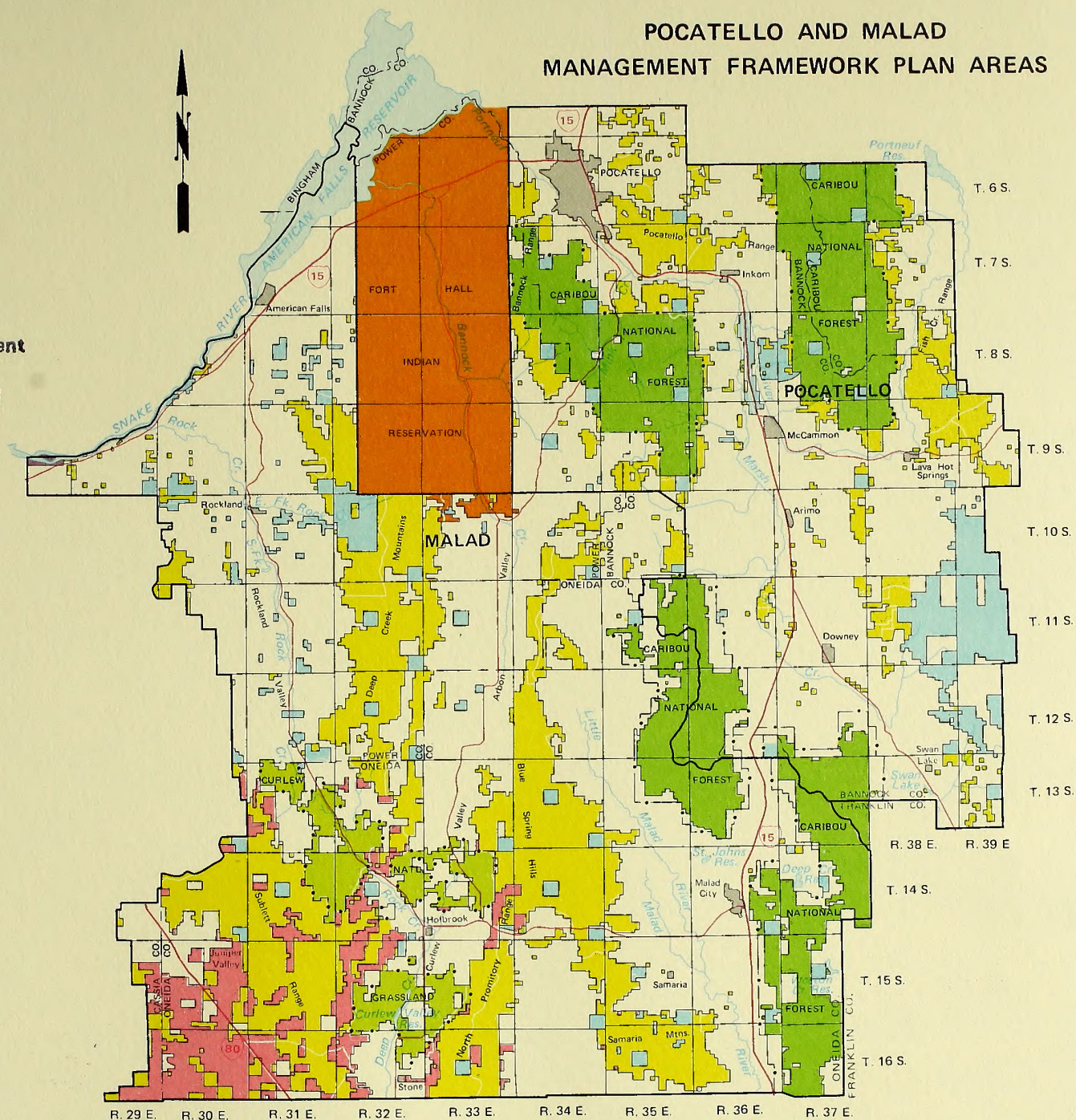
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POCATELLO AND MALAD MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN AREAS

-  PUBLIC LANDS
-  STATE LANDS
-  NATIONAL FOREST
-  NATIONAL GRASSLANDS
-  INDIAN LANDS OR RESERVATIONS
-  BANKHEAD-JONES L.U. LANDS
-  WILDLIFE REFUGE
-  PATENTED LANDS

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INTRODUCTION

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, land, wildlife, mineral, park and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial Affairs are other concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources."

The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States — now and in the future.

The Bureau of Land Management, an agency of the Department of the Interior, is charged with the administration of programs for conservation and development of the public lands and resources. In Idaho, there are six Bureau of Land Management districts with offices in Boise, Burley, Idaho Falls, Salmon, Shoshone and Coeur d'Alene.

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Front Cover: The Jim Bridger powerline follows a utility corridor across public land.

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Typical Bannock-Oneida area rangeland scene.

INTRODUCTION

In this publication we bring you, the public land users, those land use decisions that have evolved through the BLM's planning process. Our brochure contains summaries of multiple use recommendations made by the Bannock—Oneida Area Manager and subsequent decisions made in partnership between the Area Manager and the Burley District Manager.

The decisions formulated for the Pocatello and Malad Management Framework Plans (MFPs) are the culmination of work on prior land use plans and six years of input by interested citizens from all segments of the public. Appreciation is due to those citizens who showed concern and took the time to give the Burley staff assistance, input and constructive criticism. The Burley District Advisory Council and District Grazing Advisory Board also advised and counseled us throughout this process.

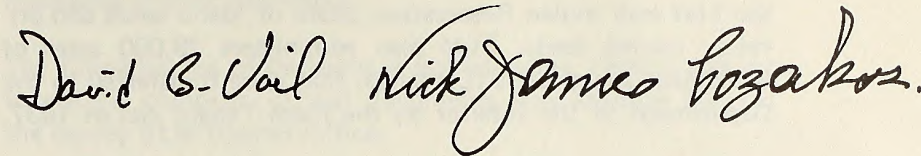
Although separate land use plans were prepared (one for the Pocatello MFP and one for the Malad MFP), the land use decisions were consolidated in this brochure. Similar consolidation of the plans occurred when we prepared the Bannock—Oneida Grazing Environmental Impact Statement.

Because of the large number and complexity of some of the decisions in each MFP, it is impossible to present all of them in this brochure. Therefore, we have summarized the most important decisions in each resource activity.

Both the Pocatello and Malad plans and all related documents are available at the Burley District Office. You are invited to visit our office and review the MFPs at your convenience. The Bannock—Oneida Area Manager, as well as my staff and I, are available to discuss the decisions and help you review the documents.

We expect to revise these MFPs from time to time in response to the needs of the people, resources and changing local and national conditions. Major revisions will be done with full participation by the public.

We thank everyone for their time and effort which resulted in these Management Framework Plans.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'David B. Vail' and the signature on the right is 'Nick James Cozakos'.

David B. Vail
Bannock—Oneida
Resource Area Manager

Nick James Cozakos
District Manager
Burley District

September, 1981

General Description

The Bannock—Oneida Resource Area encompasses 431,508 acres of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The lands can be found in all or parts of Bannock, Caribou, Cassia, Oneida and Power Counties in southeastern Idaho. Land areas are either well blocked, ranging in size from 20,000 to 150,000 acres, or isolated, scattered tracts. Public lands are interspersed with or adjacent to the Caribou National Forest, the Curlew National Grasslands, the Sawtooth National Forest, the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, State of Idaho lands and privately owned lands. BLM also administers 78,000 acres of Bankhead—Jones lands (LU lands) that were transferred to the Department of the Interior by the Farm Tenant Act of 1937.

Pocatello, the second largest metropolitan center in the State, is the largest community in the area. Other population centers include American Falls, Chubbuck, Lava Hot Springs and Malad City. The rest of the area is more rural with a less concentrated population.

Public lands are used for recreation, wildlife habitat, livestock grazing, mining, watershed, timber and wood cutting, and fisheries.

The economy in the Pocatello planning area has been historically less dependent on agriculture than other regions in the State. Agriculture plays an important role in the southern section of the area, while industry and manufacturing are most important in the north.

In the Malad planning area, the economy is predominantly agricultural with related service businesses and commerce stemming from the basic agricultural industry.

The land type lends itself well to agriculture. Steep mountain ranges rise abruptly from semi-arid, mostly sagebrush-covered valleys. The foothills and meadows provide opportunities for

ranching and dry farming, with irrigated farming practiced in some of the valleys.

Vegetation on public land consists primarily of sagebrush and grasses in the valleys, juniper and grasses in the foothills, and Douglas fir and aspen in the higher elevations.

Annual precipitation ranges from 10 inches in some of the valleys to 40 inches at higher elevations. Sixty percent of the precipitation falls as snow. Elevations on public land in the Bannock—Oneida area range from 4,200 feet in the valleys to 8,670 feet atop Deep Creek Peak.

Major Issues and Problems

Major issues and problems result from several things: present and potential land use conflicts, unavoidable environmental impacts of resource development, and social and economic impacts on local communities and life styles.

Issues and problems were identified through the BLM's planning process and public participation. The management decisions section describes these issues or problems for each resource.

Significant Management Decisions

The ultimate basis for management decisions is the capability of the land itself. Soils, climate, vegetation, topography and wildlife along with public demand were major considerations in the Pocatello and Malad MFPs. In addition, valuable information about the effects of livestock grazing on public land in both MFP areas was available in the Bannock—Oneida Grazing Environmental Impact Statement.

The following list of decisions is not complete. Persons wishing to see the complete official documents may examine them at the Burley BLM District Office.

Lands

The lands program is diversified. Demand for public lands near Pocatello includes utility and road rights-of-way, recreation and public purposes, exchanges, temporary use permits, and acquisition of land for industrial and city expansion.

One of the problems resulting from isolated tracts and public lands near farming ground is agricultural trespass. Unauthorized dump sites have also been found on public land.

BLM will place more emphasis on trespass abatement and granting rights-of-way necessary for urban expansion near Pocatello, as well as community needs in smaller towns such as Lava Hot Springs, McCammon, Downey, Malad and Rockland.

Major land use decisions include the following:

REVIEW UNCLASSIFIED LANDS BASED ON EXISTING INVENTORY INFORMATION AND RETAIN TRACTS FOR MULTIPLE USE BENEFITS IF IDENTIFIED AND RECOGNIZED AS HAVING SIGNIFICANT MULTIPLE USE VALUES.

Many unclassified tracts of land have high recreation value for camping and picnic facilities. These same tracts are valuable as wildlife habitat or as a source from which salable minerals may be extracted. The versatility of these lands makes their retention value obvious. Most tracts have significant multiple use values and should be retained in Federal ownership unless national interest is served by disposal.

FUTURE MAJOR UTILITIES WILL BE ROUTED ACROSS PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN CORRIDOR SYSTEMS.

Two major pipelines and several major powerlines have been authorized and constructed across public land, forming the existing utility system. Corridors can be established from the

system with a minimum of negative environmental impact. Even the possibility of a coal-fired plant site at American Falls would not detract from the feasibility of the utility corridors as located. Private landowners and other interest groups have expressed opposition toward any further construction of power lines across their land. Thus, utility companies will be forced to select alternative routes, possibly across public lands.

MAKE LANDS IDENTIFIED AVAILABLE UNDER RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES (R&PP) ACT. LANDS IDENTIFIED AS THE POCATELLO CREEK '40', ROSS PARK '80', A TRACT ON BUCKSKIN ROAD, A TRACT ON MINK CREEK ROAD AND TWO TRACTS NEAR THE RAPID CREEK ROAD SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE UNDER THE R&PP PROVISIONS.

All tracts are isolated lands surrounded by private ownership and away from other public lands. Under the R&PP Act, these lands would be leased from the Federal government for purposes intended to benefit the public (such as a location for a park, landfill or similar project). The land may be leased for a renewable period of twenty-five years as long as it is used solely for public benefit. These lands could also be purchased by State and local governments or non-profit organizations for public benefit under the R&PP program.

The Pocatello Creek '40' was conveyed recently to the City of Pocatello, and is being developed for a public park.

ALLOW THE TRACTS NEAR LAVA HOT SPRINGS TO BE LEASED UNDER THE RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES PROVISIONS, EXCLUSIVE OF THE MANGANESE MINING AREA.

Four hundred acres of public lands, made up of isolated tracts of 40–120 acres each, are within a few miles of Lava Hot Springs. These isolated tracts would meet recreational, public purposes and open space needs in areas of Bannock County zoned for rural and recreational homesites. The State Lava Hot Springs Foundation has expressed interest in acquiring an 80 acre tract to expand its facilities.

A portion of a 120 acre tract south of Lava Hot Springs was mined for manganese during the 1930s and 1950s. It could be mined again if demand for manganese develops.

Wildlife

A wide variety of wildlife can be found in the resource area. Among the big game animals, deer can be found in many parts of the area. Elk are found in the mountains southwest of Pocatello, while antelope are confined to Black Pine Valley.

Upland game birds include sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, forest grouse, chukar partridge, Hungarian partridge and ring-necked pheasant. Two endangered species use the area; the peregrine falcon migrates through and the bald eagle migrates into the area in late fall and stays throughout the winter.

Public lands provide about 1,100 acres of waterfowl habitat for mallards, pintails and green-winged teal. Many miles of riparian habitat are important to small, furbearing animals and many non-game species.

Major wildlife decisions include the following:

PROVIDE QUALITY MULE DEER, ANTELOPE, AND ELK FORAGE BY REDUCING COMPETITION WITH LIVESTOCK GRAZING. ESTABLISH GRAZING SYSTEMS, STOCKING RATES AND SEASONS OF USE COMPATIBLE WITH BIG GAME NEEDS. FORAGE AMOUNTS ARE SHOWN ON FOLLOWING TABLE.

These forage allocations will enable BLM to provide habitat for deer, antelope, and elk to meet the 1985 population estimates that were jointly determined by BLM and Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG).

PROPOSED FORAGE ALLOCATION FOR WILDLIFE

Allotment	Deer AUMs	Antelope AUMs	Elk AUMs
Houtz Canyon	29	..	..
Table Mountain	10	..	..
Cedar Ridge	10	..	..
Side Canyon	5	..	..
Cold Water	5	..	..
Register Rock	8	..	..
Rock Creek	26	..	..
Curlew	1,413	106	..
South Stone	500	..	..
South Bull	43	..	..
Pleasantview	1,475	..	..
Samaria	775	..	..
Walker	..	..	..
Madsen ¹	..	..	..
Hanzel Mtn.	406	..	..
Big Onion	188	..	128
Cedar Mtn.	48	..	..
Dairy Creek	223	..	44
East Daniels	1	..	..
Deep Creek	..	..	..
East Fork	625	..	..
Roy Arbon	3,875	..	..
Indian Springs	325	..	..
Black Rock	655	..	..
Michaud Creek	164	..	47
2 1/2 Mile	192	..	..
Moonlight Mine	178	..	..
Rapid Creek	164	..	..
Inkom	528	..	77
Stanger	89	..	..
Shoestring	268	..	..
Bullock	..	..	..
Goodenough	..	..	..
McCammon	350	..	..
Price	..	..	..
Toponce	515	..	..
Hebdon	160	..	..
Taylor	93	..	..
Bancroft	1,161	..	..
Wistisen	22	..	..
Fish Creek	204	..	..

Rowsell	..	..	..
Lund	252	..	..
Crystal	238	..	96
Swim Ind.	21	..	..
Tate Ind.	9	..	..
Myler	9	..	..
Garden Creek	31	..	..
Stewart Ind.	60	..	..
Soloago	158	..	107
Rogers Ind.	60	..	..
Hatley	31	..	..
Preslar Ind.	4	..	..
Rocks	50	..	..
Johnson	168	..	53
Anderson	..	..	..
Howe	..	..	..
L. Allen	27	..	..
B. Almond	..	..	..
T. Bloxham	..	..	..
A. Brady	..	..	..
C. Criddle	1	..	..
Cambridge	348	..	..
N. Casperson	39	..	..
Criddle & Sons	110	..	..
R. Davis	..	..	..
Egan	..	..	..
Cottonwood	194	..	..
A. Evans	17	..	..
W. Fuhrman	..	..	..
D. Hadley	..	..	..
Hatley Ind.	24	..	..
G. Jensen	4	..	..
S. Kent	..	..	..
Larson	13	..	..
McNee	..	..	..
Marley	33	..	..
P. Morrison	..	..	..
W. T. Evans	..	..	..
Right Hand	..	..	..
Grazing Assoc.	64	..	..
Salveson	263	..	..
Servoss Bros.	..	..	..
Thompson	118	..	..
Tippits	10	..	..
L. Roberts	11	..	..
TOTALS	17,000	106	552

* All AUMs are based on 800 pounds of forage per AUM and were derived by dividing 800 into the pounds of forage, rounding to the nearest whole AUM.

¹ This allotment is figured in with Samaria. It is a small area within the Samaria Allotment used by Eric I. Madsen.

MAINTAIN AT LEAST 20 PERCENT LIVE SAGEBRUSH COVER WITHIN NESTING, BROOD REARING, AND WINTER SAGE GROUSE HABITAT AREAS. FOR INSTANCE, NO SAGEBRUSH CONTROL WILL OCCUR WHERE BIG SAGEBRUSH COVER IS LESS THAN 20 PERCENT. NO CONTROL WORK WILL BE ALLOWED ALONG STREAMS, MEADOWS, OR SECONDARY DRAINAGES. AT LEAST A 100-YARD BUFFER OF LIVE SAGEBRUSH WILL BE RETAINED ON EACH EDGE OF MEADOWS AND PERENNIAL DRAINAGES.

Sagebrush provides almost the entire food supply for sage grouse during winter and is critical for nesting cover.

The Bannock—Oneida Grazing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) showed that land treatment by chaining and seeding is compatible with wildlife needs since at least 30 percent sagebrush survives in addition to specific leave areas.

INCLUDE FORBS IN THE SEEDING MIXTURE FOR NEW PROJECTS AND WHEN MAINTAINING EXISTING SEEDINGS.

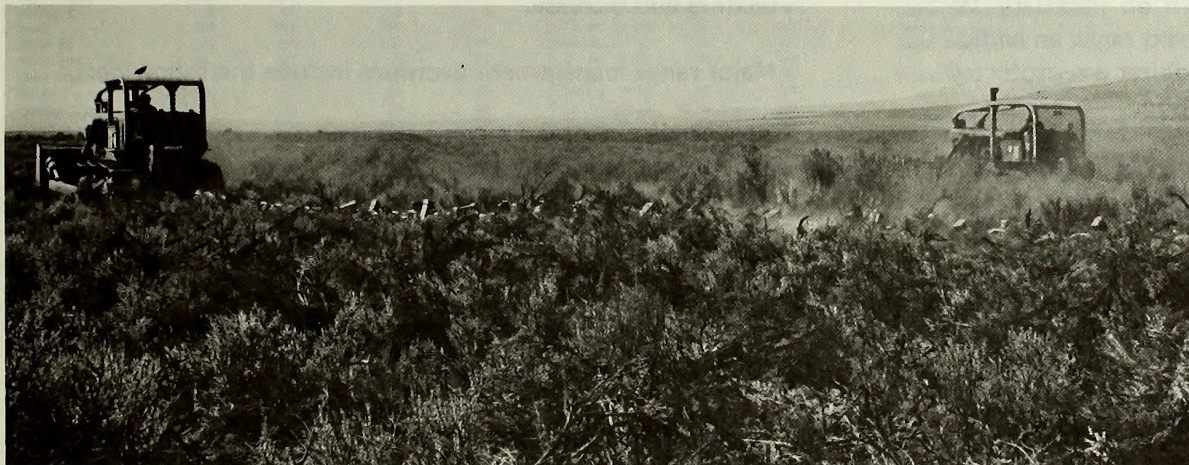
Seeding mixtures for multiple use, including wildlife, benefit public values more than a monotype vegetative composition. This is especially applicable to the Black Pine Valley where monoculture crested wheatgrass seedings or dense stands of sagebrush with sparse understory exist.

Forbs are very important for antelope in the spring and early summer. One effective method for improving antelope habitat in Black Pine Valley is to provide forbs interspersed with grasses in new seedings and maintenance projects.

DEVELOP LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS TO ENHANCE STREAMBANK COVER AND WATER QUALITY.

Existing aquatic habitat in areas of livestock grazing can be improved by rest, rotation and deferment as prescribed in a management system.

Most of the grazing systems provide a period of rest to improve streambank cover. Grazing deferment and rotation also help mitigate aquatic habitat damage.



Chaining and seeding of rangeland provides forage for livestock and improves habitat for wildlife.

DESIGNATE AN AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC) IN BOWEN CANYON WITH THE FOLLOWING PROTECTIVE MEASURES:

1. ALLOW NO POST, POLE, FIREWOOD OR COMMERCIAL TIMBER SALES WITHIN THE ACEC AREA,
2. PLACE STIPULATIONS ON ALL OIL AND GAS LEASES, PHOSPHATE AND GEOTHERMAL EXPLORATION AND MINING THAT WOULD ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF EAGLE HABITAT,
3. CONTROL COMMERCIAL ROAD OPERATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 15 TO APRIL 15,
4. CLOSE BOWEN CANYON TO SNOWMOBILE USE FROM NOVEMBER 15 TO MARCH 15 EXCEPT FOR RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION,
5. CLASSIFY THE ACEC AREA AS HIGH RISK VALUE FIRE PROTECTION,
6. ACQUIRE PRIVATE LANDS IN BOWEN CANYON OR DEVELOP A FORMAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE PRIVATE LANDOWNER.

The Bowen Canyon Bald Eagle Sanctuary was designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern on February 19, 1981. The designation ensures that the bald eagle, an endangered species, and its winter roosting habitat are protected and given special management consideration.

CONTINUE WITH CURRENT STIPULATIONS ON OTHER LAND USES ALLOWED TO PROTECT THE FERRUGINOUS HAWK FROM ADVERSE IMPACTS.

This species of hawk is quite susceptible to human disturbance during its nesting season. Other activities on public land near ferruginous hawk nests can be limited by stipulations on use permits and leases. Protective stipulations already appear on juniper post permits and oil and gas leases.

Range Management

The rangeland program manages the forage on public lands for grazing animals. Specific activities include authorizing and supervising grazing use, implementing rangeland improvements, and protecting the range from weed infestations and overgrazing.

The Bannock—Oneida Resource Area administers grazing on 85 allotments with more than 250 individual livestock permittees. These grazing preferences authorize 65,844 AUMs (animal unit months — see Glossary) of forage to be utilized in these allotments. Ninety-five percent of grazing use is by cattle. Livestock operators depend upon public land for spring, summer, and fall grazing in conjunction with seasonal use of Forest Service, State and private lands.

An environmental impact statement for livestock grazing was completed for this area in June of 1980. That document, together with the Management Framework Plans, has shaped the rangeland management program.

Grazing systems are being developed. Proposed range developments and land treatments will allow implementation of these systems. Over time, forage production for both livestock and wildlife will increase.

Major range management decisions include the following:

ALLOCATE FORAGE TO LIVESTOCK AND WILDLIFE ON AN ALLOTMENT BASIS IN THE AMOUNTS SHOWN BY THE FOLLOWING TABLE. ALLOW DOWNWARD ADJUSTMENTS TO BE MADE BY REDUCED LIVESTOCK NUMBERS, SEASONS OF USE OR A COMBINATION OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS WITH THE FULL REDUCTION COMING IN THE LAST YEAR, PROJECTED TO BE THE 1986 GRAZING SEASON.

The rangeland management program reflects the proposed action analyzed in the Bannock—Oneida EIS. The program

PROPOSED FORAGE ALLOCATION AND GRAZING MANAGEMENT FOR DOMESTIC LIVESTOCK

PROPOSED LIVESTOCK ADJUSTMENTS (%) From Authorized Use										PROPOSED LIVESTOCK ADJUSTMENTS (%) From Authorized Use					
Allotment	Acres	Authorized Livestock AUMs	5-Year Average Licensed Use	Short Term Initial Forage Allocation	Season of Use Proposed	Short Term	Grazing Systems* (Treatments) Proposed	Allotment	Acres	Authorized Livestock AUMs	5-Year Average Licensed Use	Short Term Initial Forage Allocation	Season of Use Proposed	Short Term	Grazing Systems* (Treatments) Proposed
Houtz Canyon	2,967	512	512	258	5-16 to 8-31	-50	DR (3)	Preslar Ind.	40	7	4	6	5-16 to 9-30	-14	SU
Side Canyon	120	24*	24	10	5-1 to 8-31	-58	SU	Rocks	499	700	419	264	4-16 to 6-6	-62	SU
Cold Water	152	16*	16	14	4-1 to 5-31	-13	SU	Johnson	1,114	143	57	113	5-16 to 9-30	-21	SU
Register Rock	80	2*	2	2	7-20 to 8-30	0	SU	Anderson	2,360	110	0	110	5-16 to 9-30	0	SU
Rock Creek	400	24*	24	24	3-1 to 1-15	0	SU	Howe	80	18*	18	10	5-1 to 5-31	-44	SU
Curlew	139,073	25,303	22,079	22,796	4-16 to 11-15	-10	RR, DR, DG	L. Allen	520	52	52	52	5-16 to 9-15	0	SU
South Stone	11,962	3,583	2,487	3,084	5-1 to 6-25	-14	RR (3)	R. Almond	53	9	9	8	5-1 to 10-15	-11	SU
South Bull	4,938	582	399	581	5-16 to 8-15	0	DR (3)	T. Bloxham	80	10	10	2	4-16 to 9-30	-80	SU
Pleasantview	59,026	17,196	13,850	11,186	5-15 to 10-14	-35	RR (3)	A. Brady	40	6	6	1	4-16 to 9-30	-83	SU
Samaria	25,283	5,139	3,716	3,203	6-26 to 8-31	-38	RR (2)	C. Criddle	40	6	6	1	4-16 to 9-30	-83	SU
Walker	552	150	150	68	5-15 to 8-24	-55	SU	Cambridge	1,507	251	251	145	5-16 to 9-30	-42	SU
Madsen		44	42	26	5-1 to 6-30	-41	SU	N. Casperson	440	58	35	32	5-16 to 9-30	-45	SU
Hanzel Mountain	12,313	3,470	1,134	3,470	4-21 to 11-30	0	DR (2)	Criddle & Sons	564	63	63	63	4-16 to 9-30	0	SU
Big Onion	7,050	1,959	1,914	1,457	5-20 to 9-19	-26	RR (3)	R. Davis	340	40	40	13	4-16 to 9-30	-67	SU
Cedar Mountain	2,001	100*	100	100	4-20 to 9-19	0	SU	Egan	635	79	79	32	4-16 to 9-30	-59	SU
Dairy Creek	3,320	1,014	784	780	5-16 to 9-15	-23	DR (2)	Cottonwood	920	88	88	30	5-16 to 9-30	-66	DR
East Daniels	120	14	3	14	5-16 to 10-15	0	SU	A. Evans	200	50	50	26	4-16 to 9-30	-48	SU
Deep Creek	161	39	39	20	5-16 to 9-15	-49	SU	W. Fuhrman	40	6	6	1	4-16 to 9-30	-83	SU
East Fork	7,360	1,373	1,138	742	6-1 to 9-30	-46	DR (2)	D. Hadley	80	10	10	7	5-16 to 9-15	-30	SU
Roy Arbon	46,056	6,141	5,434	6,141	5-16 to 10-15	0	DR (2)	Batley Ind.	114	19	19	11	5-16 to 9-30	-42	SU
Indian Springs	10,407	1,983	1,394	1,226	6-16 to 9-30	-38	DR (2)	G. Jensen	33	6	6	3	5-1 to 9-30	-50	SU
Black Rock	11,141	726	693	726	5-1 to 6-20	0	DR (2)	S. Kent	95	17	17	17	4-16 to 9-30	0	SU
Michaud Creek	4,215	550	526	550	4-16 to 10-30	0	DR (2)	Larson	40	6	6	6	5-16 to 10-31	0	SU
2 1/2 Mile	2,618	539	539	437	5-1 to 10-31	-19	SU	McNee	160	20	20	10	5-1 to 5-31	-50	SU
Moonlight Mine	2,223	200	167	200	5-16 to 6-3	0	SU	Marley	254	12	12	12	6-1 to 9-30	0	SU
Rapid Creek	3,051	378	363	454	4-16 to 8-31	+20	DR (2)	P. Morrison	120	18	18	10	4-16 to 9-30	-44	SU
Inkom	5,511	756	462	851	4-16 to 8-31	+13	DR (2)	W. T. Evans	240	40	40	40	5-1 to 9-30	0	SU
Stanger	548	147	147	122	6-1 to 8-31	-17	SU	Rt. Hand Grazing	600	132	132	87	5-1 to 9-30	-34	SU
Shoestring	2,281	222	230	222	5-1 to 10-15	0	RR (3)	Salveson	1,519	142	142	142	5-16 to 10-30	0	SU
Bullock	195	25	25	13	5-1 to 5-24	-48	SU	Servoss Bros.	200	40	40	40	4-16 to 10-31	0	SU
Goodenough	23	26*	26	13	5-25 to 6-25	-50	SU	Thompson	1,340	192	192	58	5-16 to 9-30	-70	SU
McCammon	3,248	303	230	303	5-16 to 11-30	0	SU	Tippits	65	8	8	8	4-16 to 9-30	0	SU
Price	265	60	48	60	5-1 to 9-30	0	SU	L. Roberts	120	15	15	14	4-16 to 9-30	-7	SU
Toponce	4,291	636	648	648	5-31 to 10-20	+2	RR (3)								
Hebdon	791	34	34	34	5-16 to 6-1	0	SU	UNALLOTTED							
Taylor	411	44	26	44	9-8 to 9-20	0	SU	Scattered Lands	6,252						
Bancroft	11,000	2,200	1,918	1,225	6-1 to 9-30	-44	DR (3)	Travis	1,199						
Wistisen	215	32	33	54	10-1 to 10-31	+69	SU	Etcheverry	1,693						
Fish Creek	2,550	503	255	503	5-16 to 10-31	0	DG (2)	Downey Watershed	1,200						
Rowsell	40	18	6	4	5-16 to 10-15	-78	SU	Table Mountain	1,040			120			
Lund	5,569	503	299	503	5-16 to 10-20	0	DG (2)	Cedar Ridge	600			75			
Crystal	5,240	1,144	868	1,141	5-16 to 10-15	0	DR (2)								
Swim Ind.	281	42	0	42	5-1 to 6-30	0	SU	Totals	431,508	81,038	65,149	65,844		-18.8%	
Tate Ind.	80	31	30	12	5-10 to 9-30	-61	SU								
Myler	120	18	18	18	5-16 to 9-15	0	SU								
Garden Creek	357	28	28	64	6-16 to 10-15	+129	SU								
Stewart Ind.	988	150	150	150	6-1 to 8-31	0	SU								
Soloago	3,438	606	193	606	6-1 to 8-23	0	DR (2)								
Rogers Ind.	812	51	51	51	5-25 to 6-3	0	SU								
Batley	229	25	25	23	5-16 to 9-30	-8	SU								

*All authorized use has been Temporary Non-Renewable.

prescribes livestock use levels that do not exceed the productive capability of the land. Socio-economic impacts from stocking levels will not result in severe negative effects on livestock operators or the public.

There will be a consultation period with all affected interests to establish a grazing adjustment schedule in the fairest manner possible prior to sending out decisions that may change livestock use levels.

DEVELOP WATER IN THE FOLLOWING UNITS: 22 MILES OF WATER PIPELINE, 16 STOCK TROUGHS, 8 SPRING DEVELOPMENTS, 2 CATCHMENTS, 2 RESERVOIRS, AND 1 WELL.

Water developments to facilitate livestock management and for wildlife use will protect and make efficient use of live water sources. The EIS identified and expanded upon development opportunities which appear beneficial and consequently are included in the overall program.

MANIPULATE VEGETATION BY CHAINING AND AERIAL SEEDING IN SELECTED AREAS COMPRISING ABOUT 13,090 ACRES WHICH IS EXPECTED TO YIELD 4,855 AUMs.

Chaining and seeding with a variety of vegetative species is a multiple use approach for increasing desirable forage for livestock and wildlife and providing a watershed cover for soil.

Recreation

Public lands provide a significant amount of recreational experience for people in the Bannock—Oneida Resource Area. Off-road vehicle use in the form of four wheelers, motorcycles and snowmobiles is prevalent within a ten mile radius of Pocatello. Hunting for mule deer and several species of upland game birds is a popular activity. Winter sports such as cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and downhill skiing are enjoyed on public land. The Oregon Trail System, numerous archaeological sites and close proximity to the Indian Rocks and Massacre Rocks State Parks offer unlimited historical and cultural enrichment.

Funds to build the King Creek snowmobile warming hut were approved for FY 1982. The facility is a cooperative effort between the BLM, Forest Service, and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, with money provided by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation.

Development of recreation sites has been curtailed by the lack of legal access to public lands in some areas. Providing access for recreation is one of the program directions for BLM.

Major recreation decisions include the following:

COMPLETE INVENTORIES, FORMAL OFF-ROAD VEHICLE (ORV) USE CLASSIFICATION AND AN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.

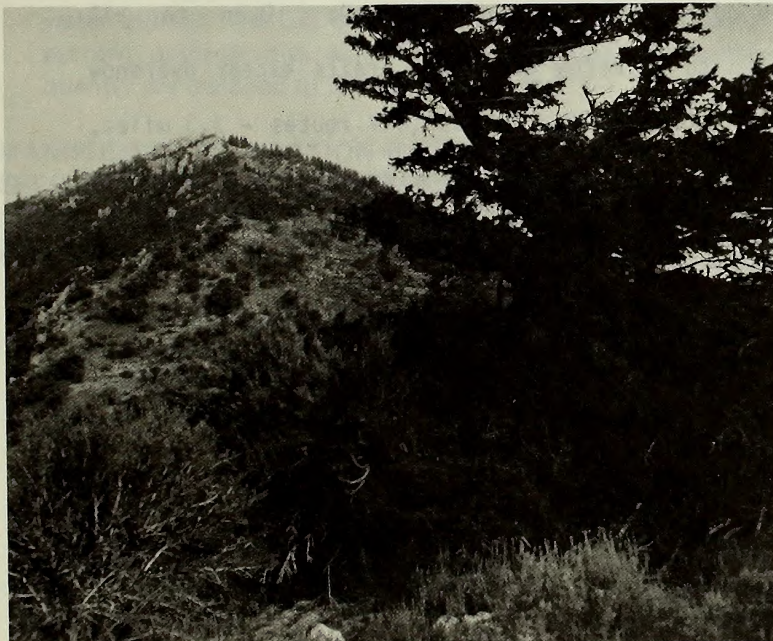
Inventories and use classification were completed in August of 1980. On September 5, 1980, ORV use designations for public lands were published as follows:

1. West Bench (4,215 ac.).... West subunit (1,790 acres): Motorized vehicles over 40" in width restricted to designated routes (5.7 miles). Open to oversnow vehicles. All other motorized vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails. Closed to all motorized vehicles during spring runoff period.¹
East subunit (2,425 acres): All motorized vehicles restricted to designated routes (ORV routes - 5.9 miles, motorcycle routes - 4.8 miles) except oversnow vehicles. Open to oversnow vehicles. Closed to all motorized vehicles during spring runoff period.¹
2. Chinks Peak (3,760 ac.)... All motorized vehicles restricted to designated routes (9.6 miles). Closed to all motorized vehicles during spring runoff period.¹
3. Blackrock Canyon (11,287.. ac.) Northeast subunit (2,355 acres): All motorized vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails except oversnow vehicles. Open to oversnow vehicles.
Remainder of unit (8,932 acres): All motorized vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails except oversnow vehicles. Closed to oversnow vehicles.
4. Camelback (1,400 ac.)..... All motorized vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails except oversnow vehicles. Open to oversnow vehicles.
5. North Pocatello (4,720.... ac.) All motorized vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails except oversnow vehicles. Open to oversnow vehicles.
6. Moonlight Mine (1,450..... ac.) Northeast subunit (832 acres): Closed to oversnow vehicles only.
Remainder of unit (618 acres): Open to all motorized vehicles.
7. South Pocatello (5,700.... ac.) All motorized vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails except oversnow vehicles. Closed to oversnow vehicles.
8. Crystal (5,320 ac.)..... Open to all motorized vehicles.
9. Garden Creek (5,848 ac.).. Open to all motorized vehicles.
10. Shoestring (2,361 ac.).... Oversnow vehicles restricted to designated routes (1.5 miles). Open to all other motorized vehicles.
11. Robbers Roost (800 ac.)... All motorized vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails except oversnow vehicles. Closed to oversnow vehicles.
12. Harkness Canyon (1,600 ac.) All motorized vehicles restricted to designated routes (ORV routes - 1.3 miles, motorcycle route - 0.7 miles).
13. Toponce-Pebble (5,493 ac.) All motorized vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails except oversnow vehicles. Oversnow vehicles restricted to designated routes (6.9 miles).
14. Petticoat Peak (19,334 ac.) All motorized vehicles restricted to designated routes (11.2 miles).
15. Jenkins Canyon (2,740 ac.) Open to all motorized vehicles.
16. Lava North (1,660 ac.).... Open to all motorized vehicles.
17. Downey Front (5,760 ac.).. All motorized vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails except oversnow vehicles. Closed to oversnow vehicles.
18. Wiregrass Res. (1,280 ac.) Motorized vehicles over 40" in width restricted to designated routes (5.2 miles). Open to oversnow vehicles. All other vehicles restricted to existing roads and trails.
19. Historic Sites (320 ac.).. Closed to all motorized vehicles.
20. Parks (462 ac.)..... All motorized vehicles restricted to designated routes (1.5 miles).
21. Isolated Tracts (6,490 ac.) Open to all motorized vehicles.

¹ The exact dates of the closure will be based upon field examinations of the actual runoff conditions each spring; normally this is the period March 15 - May 15.

MANAGE THE 11,298 ACRES IN THE PETTICOAT PEAK AREA FOR NATURAL ECOLOGICAL CHANGE ONLY, SO AS NOT TO IMPAIR ITS SUITABILITY AS A WILDERNESS AREA, OR AS A NATURAL AREA. RESTRICT MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLASS I VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (VRM) RATING.

A designation of some kind to recognize and protect the natural ecological conditions as they exist on Petticoat Peak has been considered for several years. A previous land use plan in 1976 identified it as a back country area, with restrictions on some types of land uses. Public opinion is generally in favor of a protective designation of some kind, although not necessarily as restrictive as a wilderness designation would be.



ESTABLISH A PROTECTIVE CORRIDOR OF 330 FEET ON VISIBLE SEGMENTS OF THE HUDSPETH CUTOFF TRAIL. CONTINUE ADEQUATE STIPULATIONS ON PERMITS, LEASES, ETC. TO PROTECT THE TRAIL.

The Hudspeth Cutoff in the Oregon Trail System was used from 1848 to 1857 by settlers and gold seekers traveling to California. Remnants of the trail are located primarily on public lands in 6 locations for a total length of 8¼ miles. Protecting visible segments of the trail as they naturally occurred would let future generations share in understanding the historic settling of the West.

Unimproved roads traverse portions of the trail so some disturbance is unavoidable. Stipulations to prevent surface disturbance and occupancy are standard for oil and gas lease exploration. Such protective stipulations would apply to any activity which could damage the trail segments.

REQUEST FUNDS AND DESIGN PROTECTION FACILITIES TO PRESERVE SITES ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, WITHOUT ELIMINATING USES SUCH AS WILDLIFE AND LIVESTOCK. FACILITY MAINTENANCE THAT MAY CAUSE CULTURAL SITE DAMAGE WILL NECESSITATE AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.

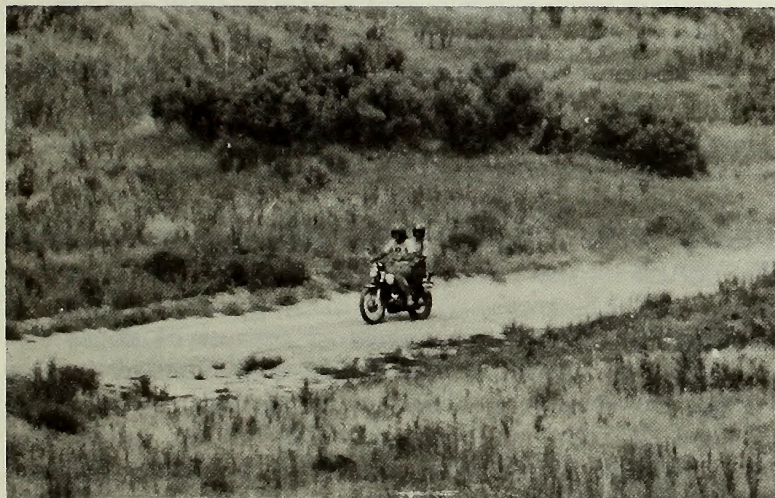
Protection given to cultural sites is not adequate in most instances. It is important to physically protect significant sites for their historic value while considering other resource needs. The design, location and planning of projects near cultural sites can do much to alleviate potential conflicts with other activities on the public lands.

Petticoat Peak offers solitude and a back country experience.

PROGRAM THE ACCESS NEEDS IDENTIFIED ON A PRIORITY BASIS. BEGIN WITH THE TRAIL CREEK ROAD AND NORTH CANYON, AND COMPLETE AS MANY AS FEASIBLE DURING A FISCAL YEAR.

The land ownership pattern in both planning units has created a legal and physical access problem for utilizing public lands. Access to public lands through privately owned land is expected to become a limiting factor for recreational activities. Providing access (on a priority basis) would satisfy the public's existing and future recreational needs on public lands.

Other resource programs such as timber harvest, range management, and mining exploration and development would share the benefits of having access to public land with recreational users.



Motorcycling on Buckskin Road is a favorite activity of many area residents.

Watershed

The watershed program is the management of the natural resources of a drainage basin, primarily for the production and protection of beneficial values associated with water. Inventory methods are employed to provide information on water, soils, and air, so these basic resources can be adequately provided for in land use planning. The program also provides support information in terms of project design for reservoir or check dam construction.

Several tributary streams and three rivers drain the area's watersheds north into American Falls Reservoir and south into the Great Salt Lake. Water quality studies indicate that 76 percent of the sedimentation comes from non-irrigated cropland, with 6 percent coming from range land.

A major responsibility for BLM is to provide domestic water from ground water sources on public lands and public water reserves for the city of Pocatello and towns of Downey and McCammon. On the lands surrounding Pocatello, protection from fire, overgrazing and off-road vehicle use is especially important to prevent accelerated runoff and damage to urban and metropolitan areas.

Decisions related to watershed include the following:

ON A PRIORITY BASIS, PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT INTENSIVE GRAZING SYSTEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EIS COMPLETED IN 1980. BEGIN WITH THE CURLEW ALLOTMENT.

Livestock grazing management, in an applicable system, is recognized as an effective tool to improve watershed conditions.

The Bannock—Oneida EIS identified watershed benefits on 67 percent of the allotments. Potential erosion rates were reduced partially through implementation of grazing systems.

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE (ORV) USE NEAR POCATELLO WILL BE SUBJECT TO CLASSIFICATION INTO OPEN, CLOSED AND LIMITED AREAS AND WILL BE MANAGED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORV DESIGNATIONS COMPLETED 9/5/80 FOR THE POCATELLO PLANNING UNIT.

Protection and management of watershed were considered in designating public lands as closed, restricted or open to ORV use. Environmental quality can be maintained while providing for ORV use in this area.

ON A SELECTIVE BASIS, IMPLEMENT LAND TREATMENT PROJECTS WHERE VEGETATION CONVERSION WILL RESULT IN A STABLE OR SLIGHT EROSION CONDITION CLASS.

Vegetative conversion from juniper and sagebrush to grasses, forbs, and shrubs reduces soil erosion by increasing cover and plant density, and provides spin-off benefits for wildlife and livestock.

Overall long-term benefits to watershed cover by land treatment and vegetative conversion will result as analyzed by the Bannock—Oneida EIS.

Forestry

Most of the commercial forest land lies south of Pocatello and American Falls, and west of Malad. Thirty thousand acres of lodgepole pine, Douglas fir and subalpine fir are under management. About 20 percent of the timber is infested with bark beetles and some stands are plagued with dwarf mistletoe. Timber sales are used as a management tool to bring bug and disease problems under control.

Firewood, post and pole cutting has increased over the past few years, as more people look to the public land for energy sources and building materials.

Major forestry decisions include the following:

LIMIT TIMBER HARVEST TO 1,000 MBF PER YEAR WITH 500 MBF BEING ON A SUSTAINED YIELD BASIS. PRIORITY AREAS FOR HARVEST ARE BIG CANYON, HIDE-AWAY SPRING AND BULL CANYON.

The five-year timber plan will provide adequate sale areas and volumes for the short-term sustained yield of 500 MBF per year. Harvesting of salvage and diseased trees within healthy stands will contribute toward a maximum yield of 1,000 MFB per year.

DEFER HARVEST ON THE F-2 AREAS FOR AT LEAST 15 YEARS.

The sites identified are deferred because of slopes that exceed 40 percent or have shallow soils. Some of the sites are too unstable for conventional harvest methods to be used. In addition, some sites consist of very young trees or contain stands that require no immediate intensive management.

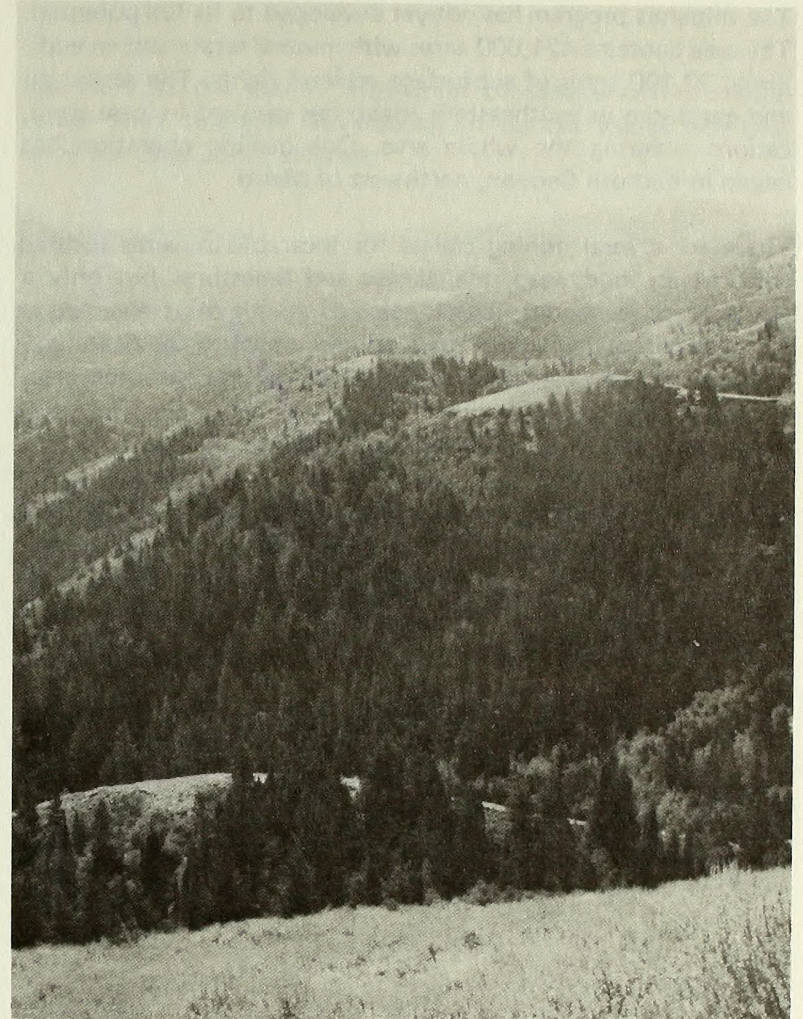
Designating an area as deferred does not remove it from intensive management. Designation lowers the priority for treatments until better techniques for timber harvest can reduce the potential for soil erosion. Economic conditions and demands are also considered when designating an area as deferred.

Deferred areas (F-2) are found in, or close to, the following drainages: Dry Canyon, Swede Canyon, Cottrell Canyon, Well Canyon, Porcupine Creek, Sawmill Creek, Left Fork East Fork Canyon, Right Fork Sand Hollow, Left Fork Dry Hollow, West Fork Canyon and Waylett Canyon.

CONTINUED REMOVAL AND UTILIZATION OF MINOR FOREST PRODUCTS WILL OCCUR IN DESIGNATED AREAS.

The sales of minor forest products, posts, poles, firewood and Christmas trees have been increasing over the years. In 1980, 1,054 cords of firewood were cut on public lands in the district. Sales of juniper posts, Christmas trees and wood poles also increased.

The removal of these minor forest products benefits both BLM forest land and the public. Removing dead wood from the forest reduces the fuel buildup for wildfires, makes a better seed bed for new trees, and heats homes. Cutting green posts and poles in specially designated thinning areas stimulates the growth of young trees and benefits local farmers and ranchers.



BLM forest lands in Knox Canyon in the Deep Creek Mountains.

Minerals

The minerals program has not yet developed to its full potential. The area contains 421,000 acres with mineral estate and an additional 72,100 acres of subsurface mineral rights. The recent oil and gas boom in southeastern Idaho has resulted in lease applications covering the whole area. One drilling operation has begun in Elkhorn Canyon, northwest of Malad.

There are several mining claims for locatable minerals such as gold, silver, zinc, lead, manganese and limestone, but only a few are active. About 15,000 acres of salable minerals, several free use permits and sales for sand and gravel to the State and County for road surfacing are managed by the resource area.

Major mineral decisions include the following:

IDENTIFY AND SET ASIDE MATERIAL SOURCE AREAS NEAR MALAD, POCATELLO, AMERICAN FALLS AND OTHER AREAS WHERE MARKET STUDIES SHOW EXISTING OR FUTURE NEEDS FOR MINERAL MATERIALS FROM PUBLIC LANDS.

The demand for sand, gravel, fill and other material is expected to increase over the next several years. To minimize disturbance and environmental impacts, several existing sites would be designated for public use. When the demand warrants opening new pits, sites near Juniper and southwest of Samaria could be made available for public use.

CONTINUE TO OFFER OIL AND GAS LEASES WITH STIPULATIONS TO REGULATE AND LIMIT THE GEO-PHYSICAL METHODS OF EXPLORATION.

The entire planning area south of the Snake River has some potential for hydrocarbon production. With the high interest in oil and gas leasing on public land, exploration work could be done while protecting other resource values such as recreation, wildlife and watershed.

WORK WITH MINING INTERESTS BY NOTIFYING CLAIMANTS OF THE FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT (FLPMA) REQUIREMENTS AND HOW THEY CAN COMPLY IN THEIR MINING PLANS AND OPERATIONS.

To prevent undue or unnecessary degradation of public lands, BLM works closely with miners to develop mining plans for prospecting, exploring and developing locatable minerals in this planning area. Regulations (43 CFR 3809) published in January of 1981 inform miners of BLM's management obligations and guide BLM in evaluating mining operations.

Environmental Overview

Lands

Major land use decisions will provide public land for controlled development and growth under certain conditions. Isolated tracts of certain public land intermingled with private lands can be leased or purchased under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. Many tracts have agricultural trespasses and need attention. Environmental impacts resulting from lands decisions are generally beneficial.

Wildlife

Management decisions are aimed at benefiting wildlife habitat and associated species by maintaining a balanced environment. Conflicts to wildlife come from the range management program.

The effects of livestock grazing on wildlife habitat were analyzed in the Bannock—Oneida EIS. While the overall effects are for the most part beneficial, some consequences could not be mitigated. Space and forage competition for deer winter range on 30 percent of public lands may occur. Land treatments will adversely affect some sage grouse habitat on a short term basis, and some streambanks and fisheries habitat.

Range Management

Livestock forage decisions are designed to achieve a balanced mix of uses and ensure sustained yield from the rangeland ecosystem. In order to do this, man's whole environment was considered. The program that evolved out of the MFPs and the EIS prescribes livestock levels that do not exceed the productive capability of the land. Socio-economic impacts from stocking levels will not result in severe negative effects to livestock

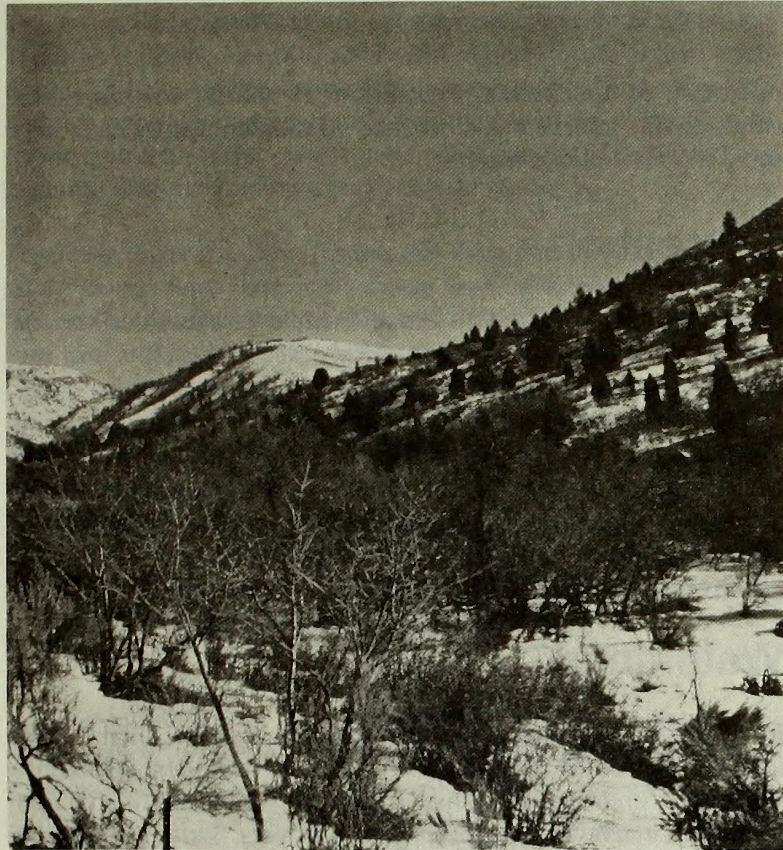
operators or the public. Protection of natural environmental values with tolerable disturbance to human values will best serve the total public interest.

Recreation

Implementation of the Off—Road Vehicle Designation Plan for the Pocatello area will benefit ORV users, the public and the watershed resources. Recreation management decisions generally favor environmental protection. Controlling surface-disturbing activities and the location of intrusions will preserve historic values and maintain a quality visual resource. However, physical protection of some cultural sites may be necessary. Management decisions to provide access to isolated parcels of public land will benefit recreationists today and in the future.

Watershed

Environmentally acceptable management practices, mainly the implementation of grazing systems and off-road vehicle designations, will improve watershed condition. Land treatments will also result in overall long-term positive effects. Benefits expected are decreased soil erosion, improved vegetative cover and better water quality.



The Harkness Creek drainage provides a unique outdoor environmental education site for students in Bannock County. A wide variety of plant species are found there.

Forestry

Surface disturbance from stand improvement and development would have minor impact on visual resources, wildlife and watershed. Deferred harvest areas benefit watershed and wildlife by reducing soil erosion until more environmentally acceptable timber harvest techniques are developed. Local farmers, ranchers and the public benefit from the sale of posts, poles and firewood.

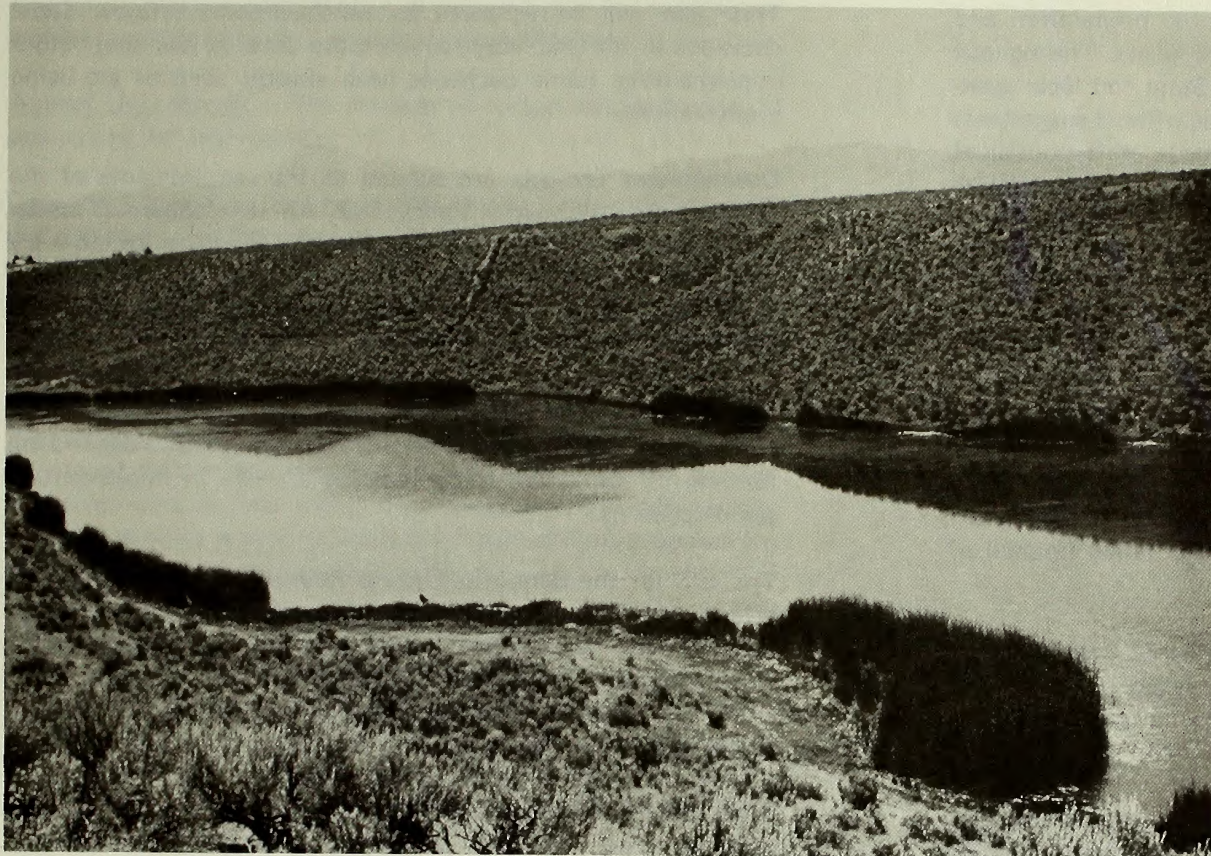
Environmental benefits from well-managed forest lands will include a more healthy resource that continues to provide for other resource and human uses.

Minerals

Most public lands in the Bannock—Oneida Resource Area are open to mineral activities under the General Mining Laws and the Mineral Leasing Laws, as amended. Minerals decisions will encourage exploration and development, while protecting wildlife habitat and the environment.

Impacts resulting from mineral resource decisions have both beneficial and adverse effects on social values and the environment.

Interest in oil and gas leasing is high, with one drilling operation in progress. Opportunities for the public to obtain sand and gravel will be increased by expanding existing pits instead of opening new ones. Stipulations on permits for these and other activities will help protect the environment. Working with miners to set guidelines for good mining operations will reduce unnecessary damage to public lands, and encourage reclamation of disturbed areas.



Wiregrass Reservoir near Downey provides fishing, livestock water, waterfowl habitat and water for irrigation.

Coordination

Public review was an important part in the preparation and approval of these management framework plans. Throughout the planning process, numerous Federal, State and local agencies, as well as members of the general public offered suggestions to improve the plans. The Bannock—Oneida staff contacted representatives of these groups to ensure that planning efforts and management decisions did not conflict with the land use plans of other agencies. The staff considered all comments submitted and used as many of them as possible.

Both plans were coordinated with several specific planning entities. Bannock, Power and Oneida County officials were consulted as the plans were developed and informed of the results. Land decisions are in accord with the land use and zoning requirements of the various counties in which the lands are located. The plans were also coordinated with the Sawtooth and Caribou National Forests as well as the Tribal Council of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.

Preparation of the Bannock—Oneida Grazing EIS offered additional opportunity for public review and response to the proposed livestock program for public lands in both the Malad and Pocatello MFP areas.

Coordination continues in developing Allotment Management Plans with the livestock operators, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Lands, U.S. Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service and other interested parties as well as private land owners.

Management Actions

This plan will be followed by on-the-ground actions. Some decisions in the plan may require more detailed planning before implementing. Some decisions have already been or are being implemented.

Development projects are subject to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. An environmental assessment will be prepared for each action, whether initiated by industry or the BLM, unless adequately covered in an existing assessment. If the impacts are unacceptable, the proposed action may be modified or rejected.

The MFP decisions will be used to program and budget for the annual work plan. Because on-the-ground actions depend on funding by Congress, there may be a delay in implementing some decisions.

The EIS for the Bannock—Oneida Resource Area analyzed the effects of livestock grazing on other resources. This analysis, coupled with both MFPs, resulted in the implementation of some rangeland management decisions in the spring of 1981. Land treatment and fencing was carried out in the Curlew Allotment. Work has begun on a pipeline into the Holbrook seeding. Fourteen acres of riparian vegetation were fenced along Stockton Creek. Although \$220,000 was requested from Congress for these and other projects, only \$95,000 was received.

In response to changing resource conditions and management requirements, the plans will be updated and management decisions will be revised as new information becomes available. The public will have opportunities to participate in the planning process when major revisions are made.

Glossary

Allotment Management Plan — A detailed plan for intensively managing and improving a specific grazing allotment.

Animal Unit Month — The amount of forage needed to sustain one animal for one month.

Carrying Capacity — The maximum stocking rate possible without damaging the vegetation or related resources.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) -- A document that analyzes the environmental impacts of a proposed action and several alternatives.

Management Framework Plan (MFP) — A planning decision document that establishes land use or resource allocations for any given area of land within a planning unit. The MFP establishes constraints and parameters for future actions proposed by the Bureau or requested by the public.

Planning Unit — A portion of a resource area for which inventories and land use plans are developed. Four planning units were involved in the Pocatello and Malad Management Framework Plans.

Public Lands — Lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management for multiple uses.

Stipulations — The terms or conditions of a permit, lease, right-of-way, application, etc.

Subsurface Mineral Rights — When the Federal government retains mineral rights on land where the surface has been patented to someone else, usually a private individual.

Coordination

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is a federal agency within the U.S. Department of the Interior. It is responsible for managing the public lands of the United States, which include approximately 264 million acres. The BLM's mission is to sustain the health and productivity of these lands for the benefit of present and future generations. This involves a variety of activities, including land acquisition, conservation, and resource management. The BLM works closely with other federal agencies, state governments, and local communities to ensure that public lands are managed in a responsible and sustainable manner.

The BLM is organized into several regions, each with its own office and staff. These regions are responsible for managing public lands within their respective areas. The BLM also has a number of specialized offices, such as the National Conservation Lands Office, which is responsible for managing the nation's national conservation lands. The BLM's work is funded by a variety of sources, including federal appropriations, user fees, and donations. The BLM is committed to transparency and public participation in its decision-making process.

The BLM's work is essential for the protection and management of the nation's public lands. By ensuring that these lands are managed in a responsible and sustainable manner, the BLM helps to preserve the natural resources that we all depend on. The BLM's commitment to transparency and public participation ensures that its decisions are made in the best interests of the public.

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Back Cover: Samaria Allotment in the Bannock—Oneida Resource Area

